GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:800
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2007
STRENGTHENING OF LABOUR CO-OPERATIVES
Danve Shri Raosaheb Patil

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any measures to strengthen labour co-operatives;

(b) if so, whether the Government has issued any directions to the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for providing working capital at the lowest rate of interest;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of facilities being provided to the labour co-operatives by NABARD in the country, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): Yes, Sir. Government has taken various measures for promoting and developing the cooperative sector in the country including Labour Co-operatives. These include, inter-alia framing of National Policy on Cooperatives, assistance to Education & Training and enactment of Multi-state Cooperatives Societies Act, 2002, Government of India is also providing financial support to the National Labour Cooperatives Federation of India Ltd. (NLCF), New Delhi to undertake promotion and research activities in the field of Labour Cooperatives.

(b)to(d): NABARD is providing re-finance to cooperative Banks for financing working capital requirements of Labour Contract and Forest Labour Cooperative Societies. The rate of interest charged on re-finance is 8.50% and 8.25% for apex/primary societies respectively. This facility is available to all the Labour Contract and Forest Labour Cooperative Societies functioning in the country.